(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Opinion of expert bodies has been sought for as per prescribed procedure.

Declartion of Giri Bar as Tribal Area in Himachal Pradesh

907. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested to declare Trans Giri Areas commonly known as Giri Bar as tribal area in district Sirmour (H.P.) on the lines of adjoining areas of UP already declared as tribal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some action in the matter in the context of adoption of a resolution by State Assembly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested to declare Trans Giri Area as tribal area in district Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh).

(c) and (d) The Proposal of the State Government was examined and it is found that the Scheduled Tribe population in the Trans Giri Area is only 0.12% of the total population in that area. Hence, the Area cannot be declared as tribal area.

Exploitation of Paharia Tribes of Sambhal Pargana

†908. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to starvation and exploitation the people of "Paharia' tribes of Sambhal Pargana are on the verge of extenction;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these people have formed any army to restore and safeguard their rights; and

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.